

Thames Amateur Radio Group

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Sept in Person Meeting

The August break is over, albeit we did maintain the Friday night Nets, and now we are back in business as we approach the Autumn.

On Fri 4 Sept we had our Members-Only meeting at the Wickford Venue. This was very well attended with people in the room and online. We were delighted to welcome our newest member who gave a valuable contribution to the evening. There was a lively discussion on the plans and events for TARG after the AGM and into 2027. We had some innovative suggestions including an online "poll" of members with a "Yes, I'll be there" when it comes to making arrangements for an event. More about that and other clever ways of marketing after the AGM.

Talking of which, the AGM is not until **06 November** at our Wickford premises, but you can expect to receive reminders before then. To get more involved in the running of the club, then please speak with the Secretary as there are always opportunities.

Numbers Station

I was at a Special Event station (proving the value of these events) and one radio was set to 6.825Mhz – well, near enough, perhaps the wind blew the dial.

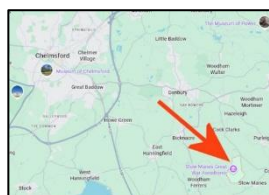


Tune in for yourself and have a listen. If you don't have your own HF radio then use the TARG online SDR radio. This is one of many frequencies that sends out continuous apparently random numbers and letters from somewhere inside Russia since the cold war. The actual reason is unknown, but it might be encrypted code to secret agents, or a fail-safe so that if the numbers stop then that suggests the sender has been destroyed and will be the catalyst for a retaliatory strike. Let's hope the battery on the random number generator doesn't run out. Look up "Number Stations" on You Tube.

Special Event Station

TARG are running our own Special Event Station, call sign GB4WWW on 19th September. You can attend and take part to help promote Amateur Radio to members of the public by using TARG equipment.

We are setting up as part of "Words Without Wires" – the story of Military Radio – being held at Stow Maires airfield.



Conveniently located outside Chelmsford, TARG will be using World War Two radios and more modern army Clansman radios.



Even if you don't have a radio amateur licence you can still use the radios under supervision of the TARG Vice-Chair who will be present on the day along with other TARG members.



It isn't just about the operating, there is so much to learn about the antennas, the feeders and the power supplies for operating in the field.

Visit the TARG QRZ page for more details:
<https://www.qrz.com/db/GB4WWW>

Further ahead

- 02 Oct. Our annual "sister clubs" meeting where we invite representatives from neighbouring radio clubs over for a get together to compare notes and see how we can benefit each other by closer co-operation.
- 16-18 Oct. TARG will be at JOTA. Jamboree on the Air, an initiative run by the scouting movement to help youngsters learn about radio as part of their communications development. More details to follow.
- 06 Nov. The AGM to elect a new committee that will take us into the next year and beyond.